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PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

The Pacific

5th Year | MARCH, 1946 | No. 3

Year Book Gains

Once again our Conference has marched forward in total membership, a gain of about 700, bringing us to a total of 93,683, and with about 500 fewer absentees than a year ago. We received on profession of faith 1,058, and a total of 1,015. We lost by death 278, by letter 734, and nearly 800 by revision of the roll. Average attendance for churches reporting showed a slight gain. Sunday school enrollment took a turn for the better by nearly 700, the total being 10,725. The enrollment of young people's organizations is just about even with a year ago. Nineteen of our churches held vacation church schools.

The final figures of benevolent contributions which will appear in the Year Book are as follows: for the State Conference $28,263, for the American Board $15,352, for the Board of Home Missions $15,391, or a total of $59,006 for budgeted apportionment. In addition, for unbudgeted apportionment, including the Christmas Fund and the Unit Plan, our giving was $7,597, making a total of $66,603. Our churches reported other gifts, which include the War Victims and Reconstruction fund, totaling $43,040.

Home expenses jumped $52,000 to $474,044. Over $55,000 was spent for improvements to properties, $35,800 for new church buildings, $17,700 for new parsonages, and over $7,000 payments on building debts. The value of church properties is now fixed at $3,166,000, and invested funds total $293,000.

Four churches received over 100 members, 8 received from 50 to 99, 13 received from 25 to 49, 24 received from 10 to 24, 28 less than 10, and 13 churches received none at all.

Sixty-six of our churches are served by our own ordained ministers, 19 by ministers of other denominations, and 3 by licentiates. Six churches are inactive, and five were without pastor at the end of the year. We have a total of 143 ordained ministers with standing within our Conference.

LAYMEN'S SCHOOLS ASSIST CHURCHES

The Laymen's Schools of Churchmanship, held at the Pacific School of Religion on two successive Sundays, February 10th and 17th, were a decided success. More than 100 men were in attendance on the 10th, and about 65 on the 17th. President Ronald Bridges, himself a layman, spoke on both occasions, as did also Rev. Frank Carlson, Mr. Pierce Coombes, Field Secretary William W. Meyer and Superintendent Gill. The afternoon group meetings were intensely practical. Mr. O. B. Paulsen of Hayward leading the discussion for trustees and treasurers, Professor William Hawley Davis of Stanford directing the deacons in their thought, and the Conference Committee on Christian Education and Young People's Work with Rev. Eugene Haynes and Rev. Elmo Wolfe in charge were productive of much interest among those who were in attendance. Rev. H. V. White brought the closing message on the "World-wide Church" on both days. Active in the promotion and the leadership were Messrs. Harold Avery, George B. Martin, Pierce Coombs, David H. Gill and N. F. Sanderson, all of the Laymen's Commission.

Ronald Bridges Inaugurated Pres.

Dr. Ronald Bridges was inaugurated as the fifth president of Pacific School of Religion on the evening of February 18. He follows a noble succession, including Arthur Cushman McGiffert, Herman F. Swartz, Charles S. Nash, and John K. McLean. There were earlier heads of the school but they were not given the rank of president.

Nearly fifty institutions and organizations were represented at the inauguration and five communions had distinguished representatives on the program. Greetings were brought from the University of California and the Association of Theological Seminaries. Messages were read from the two living former presidents. Dr. Bridges' inaugural address was well received and gives promise of statesmanship, originality, and vision in the conduct of the affairs of the school.

CHURCH UNION PROGRESS

At the Cleveland meetings, it was decided by the Executive Committee of the General Council that more time be taken to consider the basis of union with the Evangelical and Reformed Church than will be possible by the time of the Grinell Council meeting.

The only vote to be proposed at the Council meeting in June will not be a reference to the churches of the plan of union as now proposed, but authorization for further study which will go into such matters as the relationships between the missionary organizations; the relationships between those organizations and the General Synod; the various pension funds of the two denominations; the place and function of our Conferences, Associations and local Synods; and provision for amendments.

This does not mean that the union is to be abandoned, but that more time and study shall be given.

BETTER CHURCH BUILDINGS

A large number of our churches availed themselves of the opportunity to meet and confer with Rev. Elbert M. Conover who gave a series of addresses at the Pastoral Conference at the Pacific School of Religion. Dr. Conover is the director of the Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture. He had with him hundreds of illustrations of what is being done in church buildings in these modern days. He visited a number of our fields, conferring with local committees, and gained a first-hand knowledge of the problems which we are facing in the erection and improvement of buildings.

STANLEY NORTH'S VISIT

Rev. Stanley U. North, director of Department of City Work of our Congregational Board of Home Missions, spent five busy days traveling with Superintendent Gill visiting projects that are facing unusual problems or opportunities. These included Sacramento Sierra-Arden, San Lorenzo, Hayward, Berkeley Arlington, Oakland Japanese, Oakland Pilgrim, San Carlos, Orinda, and San Francisco Ocean View. He regarded Northern California as one of the most strategic areas for the development of Congregational work in the entire country.

Social Action Aims

The Conference Committee on Social Action has decided on a set of principles for its guidance. It recognizes that social action is such a broad field that it is impossible for a committee to deal effectively with more than a very limited number of interests. Furthermore, the national Council for Social Action is constantly reaching our churches with its recommendations. The Conference committee, therefore, has decided to concentrate its interest and work as follows:

(1) The state Social Action Committee will not attempt to duplicate the work of the national C.S.A., local church committees, or any other agencies; but will cooperate where that would be fruitful, espeecially in affairs of state-wide concern. (We would be particularly eager to cooperate with any work of the Northern California Council of Churches in social action activities.)

(2) The state Social Action Committee will be concerned mainly with state affairs within the Northern California Conference larger than of local concern.

(3) The state Social Action Committee will not be acting as intermediary between the C.S.A. and local committees.

(4) The state Social Action Committee will try to reach local groups with reference to state or area questions, stimulating and co-ordinating local efforts. Our concern will be then with such problems as:

(a) Integration of returning Japanese Americans into already existing Christian churches.
(b) The Central Valley Project.
(c) The California Fair Employment Practices Act.

(5) We will assume special concern for social action and education in Association meetings and State Conference meetings.

DANIEL-HEATH

On February 17 the Rev. Jessie Getty Heath was united in marriage with Mr. Henry Martyn Daniel, her long time friend in the Salida church. The ceremony was read by Rev. John T. Bickford of the Federated Church in Patterson, where the groom has been employed for several months. Just now Mr. and Mrs. Daniel are living near Patterson, but they plan to make their home in Salida.

SPRING MEETING SCHEDULE

Preparations for the spring meetings of the Associations are on their way. The schedule which has been agreed to by the Moderators and the entertaining churches appears below.

The headline speaker for the Associations will be Dr. Lucius C. Porter, distinguished representative of Congregationalism in China.

Tuesday, April 30: Santa Clara Association, at Palo Alto.

Wednesday, May 1: San Joaquin Association, at Fresno First.

Friday, May 3: Upper Bay Association, at Rio Vista.

Tuesday, May 7: Bay Association (?)

Wednesday, May 8: Redwood Empire Association, at Santa Rosa.

Thursday, May 9: Sacramento Valley Association, at Sacramento Pioneer.

Friday, May 10: Central Association, at Stockton.

BAY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Bay Association was held at the First Congregational Church of Alameda on Monday, February 25. Rev. Richard Norberg of Hayward conducted the devotional services. Addresses on the Mid-Winter Meetings were given by Mrs. James H. Price and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham. Rev. Saul Miller, recently discharged from the chaplaincy, told of conditions within the Confessional Church in Germany. Field Secretary William W. Meyer demonstrated what can be done in the line of visual education. President Ronald Bridges gave the evening address.

Officers for the new year were elected as follows: Moderator, Rev. Robert W. Inglis; vice-moderator, Mr. Ford Samuel; registrar, Rev. Huber Burr; assistant registrar, Rev. Homer A. Schwarz. Directors: Mr. Scott Haymond, Rev. Herbert Dimock, Mrs. J. H. McCartney, Rev. Frank E. Carlson, and Rev. Fred R. Morrow.

New members on Credentials Committee: Rev. Miles B. Fisher, Rev. Holland S. Burr; holdover members: Rev. Vere V. Loper, Rev. Hugh V. White. Special committee on General Council delegates: Rev. Miles B. Fisher, Rev. Hugh V. White, and Mrs. Scott Haymond.

STATE CONFERENCE

The next annual meeting of our State Conference will be held at Sacramento Pioneer Church, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 22, 23 and 24. The Sacramento Church extended a very hearty invitation and it is now a settled matter. The Fresno First Church and the San Jose First Church were also very cooperative, being willing to sponsor the meeting.

At present, it appears that we may have Rev. W. C. Timmons of the staff of the General Council and Rev. Fred T. Brownlee of the AMA as headline speakers. The Committee on Program, headed by Moderator David H. Gill, will soon be at work.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 21—Easter Sunday.
April 26 (Friday)—Spring Meeting of Federation at Petaluma.
April 30 (Tuesday)—Santa Clara Association at Palo Alto.
May 1 (Wednesday)—San Joaquin Association at Fresno First.
May 3 (Friday)—Upper Bay Association at Rio Vista.
May 7 (Tuesday)—Bay Association (?)
May 8 (Wednesday)—Redwood Empire Association at Santa Rosa.
May 9 (Thursday)—Sacramento Valley Association at Sacramento Pioneer.
May 10 (Friday)—Central Association at Stockton.
June 15-September 3—Summer Camps at Congregational Cazadero.
June 19-26—General Council, Grinnell, Iowa.
June 23-July 2—Institute of International Relations at Mills College.
July 18-19—Laboratory School for Christian Education, Plymouth Church, Oakland.
August 14-19—M.E.M. Conference, Asilomar.
October 22-24—Annual meeting of State Conference at Sacramento.

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WE SERVE

The paragraphs this month dealing with the work of the Congregational Christian Committee for War Victims and Reconstruction are composed of quotations from the booklet issued in connection with the Postwar Emergency Program, of which CWVR is a part. These quotations stress certain essential intangibles without which all effort is fruitless.

"Without understanding and goodwill we fail; with them we succeed. It is as simple as that. Our future, the future of our children, and the future of our world, all depend upon these factors.

"The war has sharpened the clash between American creed and American practice in race relations. Our Missionary Association specializes in improving these relations and has the most practical and Christian program of any agency in this field. It supplies trained advisors who, upon invitation, strive to help in centers of racial tension; it hopes to establish inter-collegiate councils in cities having both white and Negro colleges; it has held a conference on race relations in Nashville, the first of its kind in the South.

"Europe remains a seething cauldron of mistrust and suspicion. Our Council for Social Action proposes traveling seminars to Europe for our churchmen, and an international embassy of Christian leaders from other lands to visit our churches and to study with us common problems. This council also sponsors training schools for our pastors who face special industrial questions. Classes are being projected for selected leaders of church, management, labor, and agriculture to point up the layman's program toward a more effective application of Christianity in their own vocations.

"Thus, the Council plans to assist Christians in understanding postwar problems, that we may build for all of God's people a habitation fit to dwell in."

—MIRIAM S. CONVERSE.

MRS. WILLIAM J. MINCHIN

Mrs. Mabel E. Minchin passed away at Claremont, California, March 2, 1946. She was the widow of Rev. William J. Minchin, formerly superintendent of our Conference, who died last summer. Mrs. Minchin was a native of Massachusetts. She had been in ill health for many years. The funeral service was conducted by former superintendent P. A. Johnson of Iowa, who had been a long time friend. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Medora Bybee, and two granddaughters.

WHITAKERS AT OBERLIN

Rev. and Mrs. Robert B. Whitaker are in Oberlin, Ohio, where they will take classes of study in preparation for returning to China as of August 1st. They will have the joy of being with their daughter, Faith, who is enrolled as a pre-medical student in Oberlin.

POSTWAR FUNDS

Readers will please notice that the following report is in different form than previously. In the first two columns it shows the reports of the regular apportionment giving from January 11 to February 28 for the two years of 1945 and 1946, respectively. The reason for the very great increase in 1946 for many of the churches is that this column includes the response to the "Substantial and Courageous Increase," which is part of the Postwar Emergency Program but is credited to regular benevolences. Several churches took very large offerings late in 1945 and early '46 for this purpose.

For the first time we are printing the gifts of our churches to the Committee for War Victims and Reconstruction. These items include straight gifts to the CWVR and in some instances the agreed upon portion of the gifts to the Postwar Emergency Program which goes to that committee. The money as set forth in this third column covers only that which was sent through our own Northern California treasury. The churches that sent money directly to the national office or the treasury of the German Conference are not given credit in this column. The Northern California committee, headed by Rev. Ralph V. Conard, strongly urges that all the gifts of every kind be sent through the Conference office. We now know of over $1300 which was sent in January to the CWVR through other channels than the Conference office.

This shows a splendid beginning in the fulfilling of our part for the first year of the Postwar Emergency Program.

Church	Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, 1945	Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, 1946	1946 CWVR
Adin	.....	$ 2.75	$ 6.46
Alameda	95.16	95.55	60.00
Alfuras	5.14	.....	43.13
Angels Camp	3.00	.....	.....
Auburn	20.00	20.00	.....
Benicia	30.00	.....	.....
Berkeley, Chinese	.....	10.00	15.00
First	1,104.17	3,303.65	2,641.22
North	72.20	80.60	18.75
South	53.90	103.83	.....
Cloverdale	18.70	11.10	.....
Dinuba	.....	.60	.....
Eureka	108.71	74.40	.....
Fresno, First	500.00	305.00	559.40
Pilgrim	14.62	.....	67.87
Glen Ellen	.....	.....	34.60
Grass Valley	.....	25.00	.....
Lodi, Ebenezer	.....	.....	1,100.00
First	649.00	1,125.00	3,375.00
Martinez	70.91	175.00	.....
Murphys	2.40	81.00	.....
Oakland, First	440.00	1,079.74	959.62
Japanese	15.00	.....	.....
Pilgrim	15.00	14.00	42.50
Plymouth	139.78	179.81	3.03
Orinda	35.80	.....	.....
Oroville	8.40	429.57	500.40
Pacific Grove	.....	5.50	.....
Palo Alto	300.00	420.00	180.00
Paradise	25.00	100.00	.....
Parlier	.....	25.00	.....
Penngrove	22.71	.....	.....
Pescadero	.....	.....	16.00
Pittsburg	24.47	33.79	.....
Porterville	400.00	.....	75.00
Reedley	25.00	.....	.....
Sacramento, First	160.00	250.00	709.05
Salida	6.00	.....	.....
San Carlos	40.00	50.00	.....
San Francisco—			
Chinese	.....	20.00	30.00
Ocean View	3.00	.....	.....
Park-Presidio	.....	17.98	.....
San Jose	131.21	83.52	353.00
San Leandro	6.35	.....	.....
San Rafael	.....	24.50	.....
Santa Cruz	150.00	150.00	.....
Santa Rosa	14.00	72.46	.....
Sebastopol	10.00	28.13	42.20
Sonoma	3.12	.....	.....
Soquel	30.00	.....	.....
Stockton	103.44	90.75	33.00
Suisun	.....	4.00	6.00
Tulare	.....	120.33	.....
Woodside	.....	.....	12.50
Reno, Nevada	40.05	99.95	41.25
Miscellaneous and Individual	100.00	626.69	645.64
	$4,996.24	$9,339.20	$11,571.29

PITTSBURG. Rev. Elmer W. Benedict has announced a series of Lenten sermons based on the second and third chapters of Revelation under the general theme, "The Spirit Saith Unto The Churches."

ORDINATION

A council composed of ministers and delegates of the churches of the Santa Clara Association and other invited persons met at the Campbell church on Wednesday, February 12. Rev. T. Davis Preston was the moderator and Rev. Willard B. Thorp the scribe. The purpose of the council was for the ordination of the pastor, Mr. Robert L. Carlson, a graduate of the University of Oregon and Pacific School of Religion. After he had presented his credentials and made his statement of belief and been given careful examination, there was an enthusiastic vote that he be ordained. At the ordination service his father, Rev. Frank E. Carlson, preached the sermon and Rev. Robert Inglis of Plymouth Church, Oakland, offered the ordaining prayer. Rev. H. J. Loken read the Scripture and Rev. Sidney Buckham offered the invocation; Rev. Stephen C. Peabody gave the charge to the candidate, Rev. Augustine Jones extended the right hand of fellowship and Supt. Harley H. Gill gave the charge to the people. The pastor of the Methodist church at Campbell participated by the singing of a solo. The Campbell people are showing joy in the pastoral relationship and are looking forward to a very fruitful period of service.

COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM'S EMPHASES

The Conference Committee on Evangelism has compiled and sent out to each minister valuable information as to how to carry forward successfully the task of winning people to Christ and the church.

Emphasis is made upon careful compilation of the names of people who may be reached. These people should be contacted by letter and calls, both from the pastor and lay people. Classes may well be conducted for young folks and for older ones, too. Commitment may be secured by the signing of a card with the church covenant. When persons unite with the church care should be taken to have an appropriate public ritual, which may include a gift book, a Bible verse, and a prayer of dedication. This should be followed by the integrating of the members into the active life of the church. The Committee consists of Rev. H. J. Loken, Rev. H. C. Gans, Rev. Roland de Vries, Rev. Frank E. Carlson, Rev. Gordon L. King, Miss Claudine Swanson, and Mr. Peirce Coombes.

"CHURCH BEAUTIFUL"

Pilgrim Press has published an elaborately illustrated book on the "Church Beautiful" by John R. Scotford, editor of "Advance." Mr. Scotford has prepared in interesting form the data and photographs which he has been collecting during the years of his travels. The book is a valuable guide for Building Committees and for all who are considering improvements in old Churches or the erection of new work. It can be ordered directly from the Pilgrim Press, the price being $3.50.

RECOGNITION SERVICE

A service of recognition was held on the invitation of the First Congregational Church of Santa Barbara on February 28 for Rev. Clinton Eugene Sill, who assumed his pastorate there in December, after being at San Francisco, Ocean View, for several years.

CHAPLAIN WALTERS IN TOKYO

Chaplain Verdette Walters is with an engineering construction battalion near Tokyo. He is very proud of a new chapel for which he built the chancel furniture himself. He has been doing some missionary work, teaching Bible through an interpreter at the Toshima Middle School for Boys.

SAN FRANCISCO, GRACE UNITED. A Social Action conference under the auspices of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church is to be held on March 30. A boys' choir of twelve members has been well trained and sang at a recent Sunday morning service. A luncheon was given at the Hotel Whitcomb in honor of Rev. E. L. Abbott, the pastor, at which twenty-five men gave their welcome to the new pastor.

LODI, FIRST. Several laymen attended both Schools of Churchmanship at Berkeley. Rev. A. R. Boone, pastor, is holding six Easter classes for young people each Saturday morning in preparation for Church membership. Home-coming servicemen and their wives and sweethearts were entertained by the "Friendship Class" of married young people for dinner on February 23rd.

PESCADERO. Mrs. R. A. Fuller met with the ladies of the church recently speaking on our Congregational fellowship. New Pilgrim Hymnals have been secured which add much to the services of worship. Automobiles are being secured to bring children to the Sunday School and a staff of teachers enlisted. Rev. Wm. F. Keeney is pastor.

ORINDA. Building Committee meetings were held with Rev. Elbert Conover and Rev. Stanley North. The Church is still waiting for the securing of some additional real estate. Rev. Fred R. Morrow, the pastor, has two separate groups in preparation for Church membership. Two Easter services will be held in the Orinda Theater.

PORTERVILLE. Pilgrim Fellowship Sunday was observed by the installation of new officers, the young people taking various parts very creditably. Rev. Albert W. Palmer, recently of Chicago Theological Seminary, and now living in Altadena, was speaker at the annual Lincoln Day dinner for men. Rev. Willis L. Goldsmoth is pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST. At the Thursday midweek service Rabbi Morris Goldstein, Rev. Clifford H. Jope of the First Christian Church, San Francisco, and Rev. Ralph V. Conard of Alameda have been recent speakers. Forty-five voices are being recruited for the Lenten and Easter music. Rev. Jason Noble Pierce is pastor.

SANTA CRUZ. Mrs. Stephen Peabody of San Jose was guest speaker at the March luncheon of the Women's group. She spoke on inter-racial relations. The Plymouth Guild, composed of girls above High School age, has been organized, bringing to four the number of groups in the Women's organization. Rev. H. S. Mayhood is the pastor.

BERKELEY, CHINESE. This church is sharing in the program for shipping supplies of clothing, medicines and food to China. The church has a basketball team in the Berkeley League, and is decidedly in an upper bracket. Rev. N. F. Kwang is pastor.

The Sunday School and Christian Endeavor Conference of the German-speaking churches forwarded $210 for the Postwar Emergency fund from the offering at their fall missions rally.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION

PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

SACRAMENTO, SIERRA - ARDEN. Church school attendance of the first four Sundays of the school reached an attendance of 70. Two homes were used; two more will be opened immediately. Young people are meeting every Sunday night in the parsonage. Thirty-five women attended the first Women's Council meeting. Two study groups are under way: one meeting in the morning under the leadership of Rev. Mary McKee Chester, and known as "The Second Cup of Coffee Group"; the other meeting Wednesday evenings for Bible study under the leadership of Rev. Joseph Chester.

Requests have come for the organization of a choir, a Junior Pilgrim Fellowship and a Men's Brotherhood.

PETALUMA. A new church paper, entitled "The Messenger," is being published weekly and it is expected will be mailed in advance of the Sunday the announcements for which are printed. Six potluck suppers are planned for Lent, speakers for four of which have been secured, including Rev. Henry Hayden of Guerneville, Rev. G. A. Casaday of Mill Valley, Rev. Hughbert H. Landram of San Francisco, and Rev. Donald F. Gaylord of Martinez. Rev. Herbert C. Gans is pastor.

SANTA ROSA. The Congregational Church has sent word to the Presbyterian Church requesting a termination of the co-operative arrangement which has been in effect for two years. Rev. Gordon Foster has served both churches; the pastor of the Presbyterian Church who has been in the chaplaincy will probably return soon. The Congregational Church announces that it will attempt to fulfill its responsibilities to the future by carrying on a full-time program of constructive Christian work.

CALAVERAS COUNTY. Members of the Angels Camp church attended a supper at the Murphys church, where the laymen who had been in attendance at the School of Churchmanship gave a fine report. Plans are under way for a joint campaign of laymen's visitation evangelism in March. Rev. L. D. Granger, the minister, makes weekly trips to the CYA camps at Fricot and the Big Trees.

BERKELEY, NORTH. At the Family Night pot-luck dinner, Rev. Vere V. Loper of First Church spoke on the C. W. V. R. program, and the movie, "We Too Receive," was shown. Six Boy Scout troops, and their committees, were guests of the Church on Boy Scout Sunday. Rev. E. V. Haynes is the pastor.

BENICIA. A Young Couples Club is creating interest and enthusiasm and reaching a number of new young adults. An interracial group has been brought together by Rev. and Mrs. Elmo D. Wolfe. The landscaping of the church grounds goes forward. This includes a large sign in the parkway.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER. Seventy-five young people from Loomis and Sacramento had a conference on February 3. Rev. Torrance Phelps, the pastor, was elected president of the Northern California Council of Churches. On the last Sunday in February twenty-two persons were received into membership.

TULARE. Rev. Clayton H. Gill secured the loan of a display of charts and pictures, brought by Rev. Elbert M. Conover to the Pastoral Conference, in order to show his people what can be done and what is being done in the way of church buildings.

PACIFIC GROVE. At the annual meeting the treasurer reported a balance to be carried forward of more than $2000. During the year the parsonage has been renovated. In the church a gas furnace has been installed, also a public address system. The organ console was moved, the seating capacity of the choir increased, and furnishings and equipment were added to the church office. In addition to $467 in regular Congregational benevolences, the church gave $250 for work in Mindinao and $540 for released-time education. One hundred dollars was given to the Unit Plan, and there is $1000 on deposit toward the translating of the Bible into Umbundu. Rev. Tod B. Sperling is pastor.

RENO, NEVADA. The Diamond Jubilee was celebrated February 17-19. Rev. Miles B. Fisher was preacher at the anniversary service. The Twentieth Century Club was filled to its capacity of 200 for the dinner. Each table had a hostess dressed in an old-fashioned dress who used all the antiques she could find in setting the table. The historical data was set forth in a pageant. Various members of the Church impersonated former ministers and Church leaders. Rev. Arthur L. Rice, the pastor, impersonated Superintendent J. H. Warren.

MARTINEZ. At the church-night dinner on March 5 Mr. Wayne Vasey of the county Department of Social Welfare presented the difficulties in finding wholesome recreation for young people. Seventeen older children and young people are enrolled in the pre-membership class of Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, the pastor. A new Junior Hi Pilgrim Fellowship is being organized. The fund for the Thomas T. Giffen memorial chimes is now complete, and it is expected that installation will take place before Easter.

GLEN ELLEN. Four men attended the Laymen's School of Churchmanship. New Pilgrim Hymnals are on hand and a generous response has been made to the C.W.V.R. program. The largest budget in the history of the Church has been raised during 1945. Three new members recently received included a physician and two grandparents. The Mayflower Hall is used as a branch county library and will house the 4-H program. Rev. Charles C. Champlin is the minister.

OAKLAND, PILGRIM. The Church Council has voted to undertake a Personal Evangelism Visitation. A new roof for the Church will soon be installed; also a Public Address System which may be used for chimes, organ music, and social occasions. Rev. Byron Eshelman, the pastor, gave a sermon at B'nai Israel, Sacramento, on February 22nd.

GUERNEVILLE. Pilgrim Fellowship gave a broadcast over Station "KSRO" with the choir singing and eight members discussing the role of Christian youth in building sound community life. Other broadcasts will be made later. Over 225 people attended a dinner, the income of which was divided between the Church Improvement Fund and the Youth Fund. The Women's Service Guild has now five circles. The Church School enrollment is 76 and the average attendance is 68. Rev. Henry Hayden, the pastor, preached on "With Liberty and Justice for All" to a full Church on Race Relations Sunday.

SAN MATEO. Rev. H. V. White was the speaker at the February "Church Night" and Devere Allen spoke on "Revolution and Re-action" in Central America on a similar occasion in March. A splendid delegation attended the School on Churchmanship, and young people went to the Pilgrim Fellowship Rally at Saratoga. Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, the pastor, is taking over the seventh-grade pupils in the Church School as a pastor's class during Lent. Deacons of the church are leading devotional services in five different homes.

STOCKTON. Fifty-five subscriptions to "Advance" have been paid for by the Church for members of the official board and teaching staff. Within one week, four persons voluntarily offered themselves for Church membership. Improvements in landscaping the already beautiful grounds are being made. George Brandon, church assistant, has been ordered by his physician to give up all work outside of his studies at college. Rev. Noel J. Breed is pastor.

FERNDALE AND LOLETA. To stimulate the study of the Bible a six-week quiz program is being conducted. Passages of the Scripture are given out each Sunday from which questions will be asked the following week. Loleta young people are brought by the pastor, Rev. C. H. Hudson, to Ferndale to serve in the choir.

SAN CARLOS. Six adults joined the church on February 3, the seventh anniversary of Rev. H. J. Loken as pastor. A splendid building committee has been set up which has been divided into three sections: one on Finance, one on Publicity, and one on Architectural Plans.

SALIDA. At his first communion service Mr. Albert F. King, the pastor, received new members into fellowship. Mrs. King is an able assistant with the music of the church. The improvements on the parsonage are almost complete.

HAYWARD. A class of young people in preparation for church membership is being conducted Sunday afternoons by Rev. Richard C. Norberg. A men's dinner, cooked and served by the men, was a very enjoyable occasion recently. Eighty-five people attended a surprise party for the minister on his birthday. The Church has adopted a new constitution and the budget has been increased to $5000.00. Each Wednesday evening during Lent there is a discussion on the "Life and Teachings of Jesus." Definite plans are shaping up for the financing of a new building.

BERKELEY, FIRST. The Lenten program for this great church has been published. Rev. Vere V. Loper is to preach a series of sermons on "Some Fundamentals of a Modernist." These include "God," "Freedom," "The Bible," "Man," "Judgment," "Salvation" and "Immortality." Rev. J. Ford Forsyth will give a Lenten lecture series in Plymouth House on Sunday mornings on "The Church." Ministers of nearby churches will conduct the evening radio service over KRE. On Wednesday evenings there will be lectures by Dr. Loper and he will also conduct a Thursday morning Bible class.

SAN FRANCISCO, PARK-PRESIDIO. Rev. Robert W. Moon has an assistant, Mrs. A. N. Beem, doing secretarial work and making parish calls. She has studied at the University of Redlands and Andover-Newton Theological School, and has been engaged in social work. The Lenten sermons will be on the Parables under the caption, "Jesus Teaches Us": "About Righteousness," "About Opportunity," "About God," "About Prayer," "About Neighborliness."

FRESNO, FIRST. Cash contributions and pledges for the C.W.V.R. now reach a total of $1000.00. Eighty children are now attending weekday religious education classes in the church building each week. Mrs. James Price, president of the Federation of Congregational Women, visited the church on March 5th. The Sunday Evening Forum has attracted several capacity audiences of 475. Rev. John H. Gregg is the minister.

OAKLAND, FIRST. The Women's League received and disbursed over $4,400.00 during the past year. Rev. Clarence Reidenbach conducted devotions and installed new officers at the February meeting. The young people had an old-fashioned bean feed to complete their pledge to Cazadero. A service was provided at the Matilda Brown home by the Fellowship Group and Chapel Choir.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. Rev. and Mrs. Robert Inglis invited all returned service men and women and their wives or husbands and young people of college age for supper on March 10. The Cooper Zion Negro Chorus gave a concert on Lincoln Sunday afternoon.

ALAMEDA. On February 8 there was a dinner for all men of the church, whether members or friends. Rev. Ralph V. Conard, the pastor, keeps up a vital contact with the churches of our fellowship regarding their obligations under the Postwar Emergency Program.

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

By REV. TOM WATT, Just Retiring as Pastor at Antioch

What lies before? I do not know.
But since it is a part of human lot
To forward face and onward go,
Unflinching, unalarmed, I question not.
For this I know: this earthly path I've trod,
Through sunlight bright or shadows dim,
Can never end until it reaches God,
And I at last stand face to face with Him.

I know the spark kindled within the breast,
That men call love, is far too fervid flame,
And burns with much too fiery zest,
For even death its living blaze to tame.
Far worse than wasted would this passion be,
Should its pure warmth grow cold with parting breath
And the soul, from its earthly house set free,
Should cease to love because of mortal death.

I know the somber shroud of silent night
Has never fallen o'er this lovely earth;
But there has dawned a morning clear and bright,
To give to wakening life a fresh, new birth.
So, when the evening comes, and sinking sun,
And the light shall softly, gently fade,
The night shall welcome be when day is done;
And I shall hail the morning unafraid.

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WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Miss Helen M. Perkins

THE NEW YEAR STARTS

The regular meeting of the Federation of Congregational Women was held in the First Church of Oakland, Thursday, February 21. It was preceded by an all-day meeting of the Executive Board on February 20. February is the only month when the Executive Board devotes a whole day to its business, but this is necessary at the beginning of a new year. The attendance at the regular meeting was large, in spite of the fact that an unusual number of our members were absent because of illness or for other cogent reasons. Mrs. Bayard Buckham, our Devotional Life Secretary (to give the office its new name), was ill and we missed her inspiration. We had, however, the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Charles Hudson of Ferndale. We see Mrs. Hudson far too seldom at our meetings and were glad for the opportunity of hearing her at this time. Another absentee on account of illness was Mrs. Robert d'Erlach, who has not yet had a chance of speaking to you through The Pacific. We trust that next month you will have better luck. Mrs. Ralph Sargent, Printing Committee chairman, was ill, though she sent the new stationery and attended meticulously to all other details. Mrs. Z. W. Booth, Nominating Committee chairman, presented the name of Mrs. Sydney Watson to serve on the Finance Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mrs. W. F. Squire, and that of Mrs. Holland Burr as third member of the Nominating Committee.

An invitation was received from the Petaluma church women to hold our Spring Meeting there. It was accepted with much pleasure. The date of the meeting will be the fourth Friday in April, the 26th. Please take special note of this change in day and week. The third Thursday, on which our Spring Meeting would ordinarily fall, comes in Holy Week. Therefore, the meeting is put forward to the fourth week. As a great majority of the societies have meetings on the fourth Thursday, the day of the week also was changed—to Friday. That this change will inconvenience some societies is true, but the number is smaller. So remember the Spring Meeting on April 26. Note, however, that the March meeting will be held as usual on the third Thursday, the 21st.

Other dates which were stressed were the World Day of Prayer, March 8; the M.E.M. Conference, which this year returns to its former home at Asilomar, August 14-19; and the State Conference annual meeting (which, do not forget, is our meeting, too) in October at Sacramento. But details of that and of the various Association meetings will be given elsewhere in The Pacific. The M. E. M. subjects will be India for the Foreign Field and Race Relations for the Home Field.

Mrs. Stephen Peabody, Social Action Secretary, took as the starting point of her talk a statement by Edwin Embree, in a recent lecture, that we have long been talking brotherhood but have not begun to live it. She advocated our listening to a race relations program called "My Brother's Blood" given over the NBC network on Sundays from 10 to 10:30. She recommended a pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," obtainable from Public Affairs Committee, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20; also the magazines, "Church Women" and "Common Ground" with which we are or should be familiar; and three publications specifically on the Negro question: a book, "What the Negro Wants"; a monthly, "The Negro Digest"; and a daily paper, "The Currier." She called on our own Laura Clark, one of our directors and a member of the South Berkeley Community Church, to tell us something of the housing situation for Negroes in this area.

In the place of Mrs. Philip Greisinger, Literature Secretary, absent in the east, Mrs. Sanford Siegrist, Assistant Literature Secretary, spoke of the need for getting in the reports on the reading lists by the end of March, as the literature annual report must be made out for the April meeting. Mrs. Siegrist stressed the importance of giving the names of the books read, not merely the number. This is the only way the secretary has of knowing which books the women find most helpful. As announced last month, the supplementary reading lists are available on request to Mrs. Siegrist, 25 Duncan Way, Oakland 11.

Mrs. L. K. Doty, Friendly Service Secretary, who has for some time been obliged regretfully to report that the material for garments for the destitute in the ravaged areas of Europe and Asia was held up in the east, this month was able to announce happily that it was now in her hands or already sent out to the societies. (One of the smaller societies was asked to make five garments and replied asking for material for twenty-five!) There is also a crying need for used clothing in good condition. This should be sent to **The United Church Service Center, Modesto, California.** Donors should specify the denomination sending, and may specify the country to which the clothing should be sent. Do not overlook this appeal nor delay in responding to it. It is vital.

Mrs. Scott Haymond, Young People's Secretary, and also a member of the Congregational Home Boards, told delightfully of her recent trip to the Mid-Winter Meetings at Cleveland. She spoke of the pleasant atmosphere in the trains, where the many service men were on their way home and to civilian life, in contrast to the strain and anxiety of previous years, when their faces were turned toward war, hardship, or death. One among the points of interest Mrs. Haymond brought out was that this year marked the hundredth anniversary of the American Missionary Association, the second oldest of our denominational missionary organizations. Mrs. James Price, our president, and Supt. Harley H. Gill, who also attended the Mid-Winter Meetings, followed with much of interest and importance. Among other matters, Mrs. Price spoke of her visit to Pleasant Hill Academy, "cold and high," which has been ministering for sixty years to the independent and conservative mountaineers of that region. Shut off, as they are largely, from contact with the world outside their mountain settlements, they have remained nearly as unchanged as their mountains. Dr. Gill began by saying, "We have a job to do. Let us do it." It is not evanescent enthusiasm which is going to carry through our projects and meet our opportunities, but steady persistent work.

The Conference office has suffered a loss in the resignation of Miss Edith Clark. It is a loss in which the women of the Federation share equally. For years Miss Clark's almost omniscient acquaintance with the material we have needed to use, her unfailing readiness to go to any trouble to obtain for us what we could not get for ourselves, and her genuine interest in any of our difficulties, have been at our service for the asking. We miss her, and we wish for her a speedy return to complete health.

Remember the March meeting will be held at the usual time—the third Thursday— and in the usual place—the First Church in Oakland.

BEATITUDES FOR MINISTERS' WIVES

(From Rev. Lois Wendell's talk to ministers' wives meeting at Lisle, N. Y.)

Blessed is she who has found the source of spiritual strength, for her faith will give serenity and power to daily living.

Blessed is she who takes the long view of her work over the years, for she shall be undismayed by the trifles along the way.

Blessed is she whose first ministry is to her family, for her home shall be a pattern of Christian social living.

Blessed is she who believes in her husband with all her heart, for she shall strengthen his faith in himself.

Blessed is she who gives her husband tactful criticism and warm appreciation for she shall inspire him to better service.

Blessed is she who loves people and looks for their hidden talents, for she shall encourage them to grow greater through greater service.

Blessed is she who has the courage to say no, for she shall be expendable rather than exploitable.

Blessed is she who has a sense of humor, for she shall be spared many heartaches.

Blessed is she who profits by criticism, for she shall increase in wisdom and spiritual stature.

Let her rejoice and be very glad, for great is her work and its reward, and its fruits shall be everylasting.

EVERY DAY

Every day is a fresh beginning,
Every morn is the world made new.
You who are weary of sorrow and sinning
Here is a beautiful hope for you,
A hope for me and a hope for you.

Every day is a fresh beginning;
Listen, my soul, to the glad refrain,
And, spite of old sorrow and older sinning,
And puzzles forecasted and possible pain,
Take heart with the day, and begin again.

—By SUSAN COOLIDGE.

PLYMOUTH HOUSE

Plymouth House plans for the coming month include a dinner which will launch on the campus of the University of California the Congregational Christian Student Fellowship. The dinner will be held in Plymouth House on Friday, March 15, when the speaker will be Dr. Ronald Bridges, President of the Pacific School of Religion and Moderator of the Congregational Christian Churches. The dinner is linked with the program to welcome new students to university. Other plans include calling on freshmen by members of Ploymouth House, firesides at home and letters of information.

The week-end of March 22 Plymouth House students will travel to Cazadero for a a week-end retreat. It is expected that thirty-five will make the trip. This month a new Wednesday evening Bible series has been started under the leadership of Rev. J. Ford Forsyth. The series leads up to Easter and is entitled "The Way the Master Went."

GEORGE AKI IN ITALY

A letter from Chaplain George Aki dated January 12 and coming from Leghorn, Italy, states that he is the regimental chaplain. His unit is hoping to return home soon. He says that the chaplain's work consists mostly of marriage consultations and dependency discharge interviews.

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